

**BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
Park and Recreation Department  
Conference Room, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall  
Monday, June 13, 2005  
3:30 p.m.**

Present: Dennis Brunner, June Bailey, Colleen Craig, Glen Dey, Janet Miller

Also Present: Mike North - Law Department; and Larry Foos, Larry Hoetmer, Doug Kupper and Maryann Crockett (staff)

President Bailey called the meeting to order at approximately 3:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC AGENDA**

Jerry Qualls, former coach, Extreme Fun League, made several allegations regarding various park staff and Extreme League umpires unprofessional behavior towards parents, coaches and spectators; remarked on how game schedules were determined; and how game rules and regulations were interpreted. He specifically mentioned that because there were not enough fourteen year olds to form their own league, those children had been divided between the teams in the twelve and under league, which he felt gave some teams an unfair advantage.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

The minutes of the May 16, 2005, meeting were reviewed and approved.

1. **Discussion of City's Reforestation Policy.** It was the general consensus to defer discussion of this item until the September meeting.
2. **Review of Administrative Regulation - Charter Ordinance #125.** Staff referred board members to the latest draft of the Administrative Regulation – Charter Ordinance #125. Dr. Dey handed out another draft and commented on the revisions he suggested stating that his concern was that the Board be involved in the flow of information from the beginning of any discussion of parkland. He said the Board has been put in the position of not knowing about an issue until disposition of parkland was needed and that he wanted to avoid that in the future. He referred to the wording of paragraph #1 and requested that “*or identified in park development plan*” be added; paragraph #3 “*and forwarded concurrently*” be added; paragraph #4 “*The Park Department Director will inform the Park Board when this occurs.*”; and the addition of paragraph #8 “*Any transaction affecting parkland should consider the goal of maintaining the current park acreage inventory. To the greatest extent feasible, any parkland that is sold will be replaced with land with an equal or greater surface area and within the same neighborhood, defined as a distance of not more than one mile from the land sold or otherwise conveyed.*” There was brief discussion concerning the suggested changes.

**On motion by Dey, second by Brunner, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED to accept the administrative regulation as revised for submission back to the City Council.**

Janet Miller asked about the status of Charter Ordinance #125. Mike North commented that it might be discussed by Council in a Workshop. Director Kupper commented that Administrative Regulations are published by the City Manager's Office.

3. **Director's Update.** Director Kupper reported briefly on the following items.

- **2005-2014 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)** - provided board members a copy of the 2005-2014 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). He commented that this proposed version included comments from the District Advisory Boards (DAB's) and that it was scheduled to go back to City Council for review and approval sometime in July.

There was brief discussion concerning the following projects: K-96 Lake - \$400,000 for construction of a paved parking lot; whether signage was included in any of the bike path projects – Planning Department will include in project proposals; \$250,000 allocated in 2006 for Park Master Planning and Development – Director Kupper indicated that staff hoped to complete several studies with the funds including an evaluation of the City's recreational services to see if programs and classes offered meet citizen needs, a study of current park facilities, and development of a regional park master plan. He added that they hoped to get some assistance from Sedgwick County on the regional park master plan. He added the funding in 2011, 2012, and 2013 was for purchase and development of regional parks.

President Bailey asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on the issue. The following individuals spoke:

- **Bob Aldrich** – asked about funding for replacement of playground equipment at Woodland Park. Director Kupper responded that \$190,000 was earmarked in 2007. Mr. Aldrich asked if that project could be moved up. Director Kupper commented that staff was waiting to see the outcome of the El Zocalo proposal and whether LaFamilia would stay in the facility, or relocate with El Zocalo.
- **Rosemary Weber – GreenWay Alliance** – asked where the regional parks would be located, and did that funding also include development of the South Arkansas River Greenway (SARG) as a regional park. Director Kupper indicated that the funding was for new land acquisitions. He said the study would determine where regional parks should be located. She asked how the \$270,00 allocated for the SARG in 2006 would be spent. Director Kupper commented that development included a paved parking lot and a canoe/kayak launch on the Arkansas River. He commented that design plans were complete; however, funding has not been initiated.
- **John Stevens – East Schweiter Neighborhood Association (ESNA)** - reported that the ESNA had their annual picnic last Saturday. He complimented Park staff on the solution to the drainage problem at the playground equipment. He said everyone enjoyed the improved facilities at the park and that they were looking forward to additional improvements.

President Bailey asked about the \$21,000,000 for Century II renovation. Director Kupper responded that was just a “drop in the bucket”. He said an estimated \$120,000,000 would be needed to renovate and modernize Century II. He stated that the facility is beginning to lose

business because it is too small, and multiple events cannot be held at the same time in the facility due to parking and acoustics (noise bleeds through to other areas). He said the \$1,000,000 allocated in 2007 was for design only, that staff would need to obtain citizen support for an overall facility renovation and development of a business plan. Janet Miller clarified that funds for Century II were a separate allocation and not taken from other park department line items. Director Kupper stated that was correct.

President Bailey asked about allocations for the Ice Sports facility. Director Kupper commented that the facility was ten years old and needed upgrades. He specifically mentioned carpeting and replacement of the zamboni.

- **Summer of Discovery (SOD)** – stated that the 2005 Summer of Discovery program was currently under way with approximately 4,500 children enrolled over the twelve-week program. He added that space was still available. He said the cost was \$80 per week, which included two field trips, two swimming trips and approximately fifty hours of day care per child, per week. Responding to Janet Miller’s question regarding scholarships, Director Kupper indicated that Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) and Social Rehabilitative Service (SRS) grants were available.
  - **Aquatics** – referred board members to the new “Swimming Pool Information” brochure and commented on new programs such as family nights, free swim days, reduced coupon books, and family packages.
  - **Interactive Fountains** – reported that the interactive fountains at Fairmount and Osage Parks were almost complete. He said dedication events were scheduled at Fairmount on July 9 and Osage on July 23. He commented that \$800,000 was spent on both facilities.
  - **Classification Study** – reported that exempt staff has been involved in study of exempt positions, with each employee being required to fill out a “position questionnaire” regarding their job duties. He commented that it has taken up a great deal of staff time.
4. **Presentation of Plaque to President June Bailey.** Director Kupper presented a plaque to President June Bailey thanking her for her eight years of services to the Board. President Bailey, in turn, presented several certificates to staff for their work to oversee, develop and protect Wichita parks. She said it had been a pleasure to serve on the Board of Park Commissioners as well as a tremendous learning experience. She thanked her mentors (specifically mentioning M.S. Mitchell), and park staff for their passion and the many friendships she has formed as a result of her involvement with the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:40 p.m.

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Janet Miller, First Vice President

ATTEST:

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Maryann Crockett  
Recording Secretary